

## STATE OF VERMONT

## HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

In re ) Fair Hearing No. 20,780  
 )  
Appeal of )

# INTRODUCTION

The petitioner requests a fair hearing due to issues with his fuel assistance. The issue is whether the Department for Children and Families, Economic Services Division, has authority under the Fuel Assistance Program to deal with the leak to petitioner's fuel tank.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The petitioner is an individual with a disability residing in subsidized housing. Petitioner receives fuel assistance from the Department.
2. On March 9, 2007, petitioner filed a request for a fair hearing. A fair hearing was held on March 29, 2007.
3. On or about February 22, 2007, the petitioner reported a gas leak to his tank. A small gas leak was discovered and subsequently corrected. The petitioner has not had any out of pocket expenses to the fuel company as a result of the leak.

4. According to the Department, they do not have any financial responsibility for the equipment.

ORDER

The Department's actions is affirmed.

DISCUSSION

The regulations governing the fuel assistance program are found at W.A.M. §§ 2900, *et seq.* The fuel assistance program provides help to low income Vermonters with their heating expenses.

The petitioner receives assistance from the fuel assistance program towards his heating expenses.

The regulations governing the fuel assistance program do not allow for payments for equipment repair or losses resulting from equipment malfunctions. In conclusion, the Department's decision that the petitioner's claims are not covered by the fuel assistance program is affirmed. 3 V.S.A. § 3091(d), Fair Hearing Rule No. 17.

# # #